

SECRET

Re: Contacts with the Soviet athletes  
Date: 21 Febr. 1966

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE: METHOD EXEMPTION 1.4.2  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

*Accessionary/58*

On Friday, 18 Febr. 1966, at 4:45 PM, B. went to the Laew's Midtown Motor Inn where the Soviet athletes were staying, and called on the housephone Viktor USHAKOV. USHAKOV came down to the lobby to meet B. Although B. was working with the Soviet athletes for two weeks as an interpreter during the USA-USSR track and field meet in Philadelphia in 1959, USHAKOV did not recognize B. and stated that he does not remember him either. They sat down in the lobby for a chat.

The conversation was forced and USHAKOV did not express any interest in it because his ~~thing~~ thoughts seemed to be preoccupied with something else. After a ~~guxaxxuxaxix~~ short get acquainted conversation B. suggested to USHAKOV to go to the cocktail lounge for a drink, but USHAKOV explained that he can not go because he has to meet here in the hotel a friend of his, and this was the reason why he came down to meet B. with his overcoat and a hat. He further explained that this friend of his at one time in Moscow was working under him in the sports organization, but at the present he is working here in the New York City for the INTURIST. USHAKOV was with him earlier in the day, and they went together to see the fencing meet, which was taking place here in the city. USHAKOV extended an invitation to the American fencers to come to Moscow to take part in the World Fencing Championship Meet, which will take place there this summer. USHAKOV was to meet his friend and go with him again to see the fencing meet for a while before the track and field games will start later on in the evening.

During the conversation B. found out that USHAKOV is the Deputy Director (there are two of them) of the RM Soviet International Sports Organization, he is concerned with the arrangements and the details of the international sports meets, and frequently is heading various sports groups outside the USSR. He is married, and his wife is a teacher of

SECRET

74-124-2912

SECRET

the Russian language in a secondary school in Moscow. He has one son, YURIY, 16 years of age. YURIY is studying English language and is good at that. He also is inclined towards sports, which he took after his father, and his favored games are basketball, at which he is very good, and soccer. USHAKOV studied at the university physical education, and his favored sports were skating and hockey, at which he was gx good.

While talking about the secondary schools in the Soviet Union, B. stated the fact that since recently the schools system has been changed from 11-year span to 10, there will be a problem of placing the double number of the graduates in the higher institutions of learning. USHAKOV replied that there will be no problems in that respect because there are already preparations under way to make ~~xxxx~~ more room at the universities and the institutes for more students, and in addition to that there are going on preparations for a great number of new and special courses for the graduates.

USHAKOV mentioned that the athletes will have two more meets, in Baltimore and in Albuquerque. In connection with this, he asked B. where, in his opinion, he should buy some souvenirs, considering the selection and prices. B. replied that in the New York City the prices might be a little higher, but the selection is the best. B. offered to USHAKOV his help in buying the souvenirs, but he replied that his friend will help him to do that. USHAKOV mentioned that his son gave him a whole list of English books to buy for him, and the only author that USHAKOV mentioned was Agatha CHRISTIE's Mystery Stories. USHAKOV also mentioned that he would like to get some fashion magazines.

USHAKOV stated that the outdoor track and field meet between USA and the USSR this year will take place in Los Angeles in July and he most likely will be there too.

Since the conversation was very dragged B. parted with USHAKOV at 6 PM, and suggested that perhaps they could get together after the meet and then go for a drink. USHAKOV did not responded to that. His friend from Inturist did not show up.

SECRET

SECRET

3

Towards the end of the meet B. managed to get to the floor where the athletes were competing. He approached Taisiya CHENCHIK. She did not remember B. from Philadelphia and was not very eager to talk, most likely because she placed only second in her competition, the high jump. She gave B. her autograph (attached).

The other two girls, Tatiana SENEKMANOVA SCHELKANOVA, the long jumper, and Tamara DMITRYEVA, the 880 yard runner, were a little more talkative. They were glad to meet someone who speaks Russian and to make some acquaintances here in the USA. In the USA they were for the first time, they liked here, but had no time to see anything yet. They were looking forward to the USA-USSR meet in Los Angeles this summer for this means a longer stay here in the USA and an opportunity to see more of it. They signed their autographs (attached).

At the end of the meet their coach approached them. He barked at them "let's go", and all of them followed him like a little sheep. B. followed them too. On the way to the hotel B. suggested to SCHELKANOVA that perhaps she and the other two girls would like to go out for a while and see the city. She expressed an interest, and stated that first they would have to rest a little, and most of all, she would have to talk about it with the girls. After a short conference with the girls, she replied that the girls are tired and that it was already late (shortly after 12 midnight). When B. suggested the following day, Saturday, the girls did not know what was planned for them on that day, and they did not know the time of their departure on Sunday either.

In the hotel lobby B. met Igor TER-OVANESYAN. He was very tired because his competition ~~was~~ in the long jump was the last one of the meet. He was in <sup>a</sup>hurry to get to his room, and the only thing B. could get from him was his autograph (attached).

In the hotel lobby was also USHAKOV with his friend from the Inturist. B. approached them. USHAKOV explained that while he was sitting with B. in the lobby his friend was waiting for him in his room. He introduced his friend to B. as Anatoly SLAVNOV, director of the Inturist.

SECRET

**SECRET**

SLAVNOV was asking B. different questions as to who B. is, where he is from, etc. At one point USHAKOV suggested to SLAVNOV the perhaps he could employ B. at the Inturist since he knows a few foreign languages. SLAVNOV replied that at present he has all the staff he can use, but added that a year ago the Globe Travel Agency in Philadelphia was looking for someone who knows English and Russian.

From the conversation with SLAVNOV B. found out that he is a director of the Inturist. In his office he has 3 workers who are all Russians and all are females. He is married and has one child. The child, 6 years of age, goes to the school somewhere on 86th street, where the children from the Russian, Ukrainian, and Byelorussian missions to the UN are being taught. There are 4 classes.

USHAKOV was in a hurry to go up to his room. To B's question he replied that he does not know the plans for the next day nor the time of their departure. Just before they parted, SLAVNOV gave B. his business card and asked him to visit him sometimes when B. is in the New York City. (business card attached)

The following day, on Saturday afternoon, 19 Febr. 1966, B. went to the hotel but all the athletes were out. Later on in the evening, about 8 PM, B. called the hotel and was talking over the phone with DMITRIYEVA. B. suggested to the girls to go somewhere, but they replied that they were tired and need some rest. They also suggested that B. should look them up the next time they will come to the USA.

**SECRET**